

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

L-03 IO-14 SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 CEQ-02 INT-08

SMI-01 DODE-00 COA-02 SP-03 DLOS-07 DRC-01 /135 W

----- 008600

R 130722Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3397

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE POUCH

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE POUCH

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY POUCH

AMCONSUL PERTH POUCH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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FOR COMMERCE (NOAA)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, TBIO, AS

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION: GOA VOTE STILL UNCERTAIN

REF: (A) STATE 118882 (B) CANBERRA 3047

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1. E/C COUNSELOR CALLED ON CUMES, FIRST ASST. SECRETARY, DFA,

JUNE 13, TO DISCUSS IWC MEETING AND DELIVER AIDE MEMOIRE
SUMMARIZING POINTS MADE REF (A). IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST THAT

AUSTRALIA AGAIN VOTE FOR TEN-YEAR GLOBAL MORATORIUM, CUMES SAID
THAT GOA MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS ARE DIVIDED ON THIS, ALTHOUGH
DFA WOULD LIKE TO SEE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE. REGARDING AUTOMATIC
SELECTIVE MORATORIUM AS FALL BACK SHOULD 10-YEAR MORATORIUM
FAIL, CUMES INDICATED AUSTRALIA WILL PROBABLY SUPPORT. CUMES
PROMISED TO CANVASS OTHER DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED (ENVIRONMENT AND
CONSERVATION AND AGRICULTURE, FORMERLY PRIMARY INDUSTRY) AND
INFORM EMBASSY OF FINAL GOA POSITION.

2. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION, E/C COUNSELOR EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE
OF MAINTAINING AT LEAST THE EIGHT VOTES (INCLUDING AUSTRALIA'S)
FAVORING TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM CAST AT 1973 IWC MEETING ELSE
JAPAN AND USSR CONCLUDE THAT INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON THEM TO
CEASE WHALING HAS EBBED. CUMES AGREED WITH THIS AND SAID HE
PERSONALLY FAVORS GOA VOTING FOR GLOBAL MORATORIUM. IN RESPONSE
TO CUMES' QUESTION, E/C COUNSELOR STATED THAT U.S. WOULD
SUPPORT AUTOMATIC SELECTIVE MORATORIUM SHOULD TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM
FAIL BUT THAT U.S. COULD NOT ITSELF PROPOSE THE FALL BACK.
CUMES ACCEPTED THIS, INDICATING THAT AUSTRALIA MIGHT PROPOSE
FALL BACK.

3. IN SEPARATE JUNE 13 CONVERSATION WITH SCIENCE LIAISON OFFICER,
RYAN, ASST. SECRETARY, DEPT. AGRICULTURE (REF B) RAISED
PROCEDURAL QUESTION. RYAN, WHO REFLECTS HIS DEPARTMENT'S
OPPOSITION TO TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM, SUGGESTED THAT ONLY WAY FOR
FALL BACK TO BE CONSIDERED AT IWC MEETING IS FOR SOME DELEGATION
TO PROPOSE IT AS AMENDMENT TO US PROPOSAL FOR TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM
BEFORE VOTE ON LATTER IS ACTUALLY TAKEN. RYAN CONTENDS THAT,
SHOULD U.S. PROPOSAL BE DEFEATED IN UNAMENDED FORM, THERE WOULD
BE NO WAY FOR ANY COUNTRY TO PROPOSE THE FALL BACK SINCE "IT IS
NOT ON AGENDA." SLO DISAGREED WITH THIS FORMULATION, STATING
EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT FALL BACK CAN BE PROPOSED SHOULD US
PROPOSAL BE DEFEATED. HOWEVER, HE AGREED TO BRING RYAN'S POINT
TO ATTENTION OF NOAA.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: OBVIOUSLY, AUSTRALIANS HAVE NOT BEGUN TO SORT
OUT THEIR POSITION FOR IWC MEETING. AGRICULTURE OPPOSES
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TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM BUT SUPPORTS FALL BACK; DFA SEEMS TO FAVOR
VOTING FOR BOTH; ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION HAS INDICATED IT
FAVORS TEN-YEAR BUT OPPOSES FALL BACK. IT IS STILL UNCERTAIN
WHO WILL WIN OUT OF THIS CONFUSION, BUT EMBASSY IS OPTIMISTIC
THAT AUSTRALIANS WILL VOTE FOR TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM SO AS NOT
TO LOOK LIKE BACKSLIDERS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY ASSUMES RYAN'S VIEW ON PROCEDURAL

QUESTION (PARA 3) IS WRONG BUT WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S
COMMENT ON IT.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WHALING, AGREEMENTS, CONSERVATION, SPECIES PROTECTION, FISHERIES MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER03670
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740152-1082
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740649/aaaabqbu.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 118882 (B) CANBERRA 3047
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <31 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION: GOA VOTE STILL UNCERTAIN
TAGS: OCON, TBIO, AS, IWC-1
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005